

nozzle formed integral with said interior surface of said chamber.

31. (New) A device for conditioning tobacco material, comprising:

a hyperbaric chamber having an upper inlet and a lower outlet, said upper inlet having a first pressure proof differential wheel sluice and said lower outlet having a second pressure proof differential wheel sluice;

a plurality of ring nozzles integrated with an interior surface of said hyperbaric chamber, each of said ring nozzles in flow communication with a superheated vapor source of a least 100° C;

a heating jacket surrounding an exterior surface of said hyperbaric chamber, said heating jacket in flow communication with a heated vapor source;

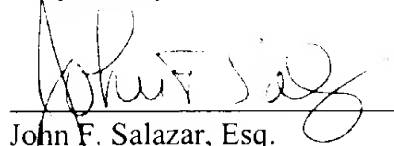
wherein said hyperbaric chamber maintains an absolute pressure of about 2 to about 10 bars.

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**REMARKS**

Entry of the above preliminary amendment is respectfully requested. Claims 1 through 31 are currently pending in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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